

CONVICTS MAKE GAS MASKS AND 'PLANE PARTS IN PRISONS

SPECIAL "DAILY MIRROR" NEWS

CONVICTS IN BRITISH PRISONS ARE MAKING GAS-MASKS, MILITARY SANDBAGS, SMALL AEROPLANE PARTS, KIT-BAGS AND AMBULANCE BOXES.

FIVE thousand gas-masks are made at Maidstone Gaol every week. Men with long criminal records serving terms of penal servitude, instead of doing the normal heavy punishment duty, are making the metal parts of the masks.

In the prison's big machine shop, skilled workmen are manufacturing small parts of aeroplanes.

Prisoners in the second division, instead of stitching Government mailbags, are making sandbags and soldier's kitbags.

The emergency preparations have spread to Dartmoor, where "hush hush" tasks have been given by officials to privileged convicts. At Parkhurst, Isle of Wight, the work being carried out is similar to that at Maidstone.

Wing-Commander Steele-Perkins, of the Home Office, promised a public health conference in London, last Friday, that gas-masks would be available soon for every one of Britain's 43,000,000 inhabitants.

Depots were being set up throughout the country where respirators would be stored.

"Grumbling at Rush Work"

A man who has just left Maidstone Gaol, after serving a six-year sentence, told the *Daily Mirror* yesterday:—

"Some of the prisoners have been grumbling at the rush work. Many are out-and-out pacifists."

Dr. Alfred Salter, Socialist M.P. for Bermondsey West, protested at the beginning of the year about a rush order to British prisons for a million sandbags.

At that time, he said, there was serious unrest among the prisoners.

The Prison Commissioners denied most of his allegations about the million sandbags and said that "a smallish order for sandbags was being carried out in the ordinary way."

DUCHESS OF KENT VISITS THEATRE

The Duchess of Kent attended the performance last night of "Swing Along" at the Gaiety Theatre.

The party of eight with whom she sat in the stalls included Prince Paul and Princess Olga of Yugoslavia and Lord and Lady Stanley.

FELL 40 ft.—CAUGHT

Falling 40ft. from a roof in Hackney last night, a girl was saved by a man who caught her in his arms. He had seen her hanging by her hands from the roof and had time to spread out some sacks of vegetables.

The man was Samuel Cecil, of Hockley-street, Morning-lane, E., and the girl was Doris Tallovin, aged eighteen, of Wick-road, Hackney. Later the girl was taken to Hackney Hospital with a wrist injury.

LADIES, LADIES, PLEASE!

If anybody's going to be champion baby of the Merseyside it looks like being the lady on the right—by the process of elimination of beauty, unless the protesting gentleman can keep the peace.



POLICE "DETAINED" VICAR AND SCHOOLMISTRESS IN POST-OFFICE RAID

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

IT was news to the Vicar of Hargrave, Cheshire, the Rev. G. G. A. Preston, when I told him last night he had been "detained" by police who were making a raid on the village post office.

At Broxton Police Court yesterday, when charges of keeping the premises for betting failed, Sergeant Kettle said that while the search was in progress six children were detained. The schoolmistress came to take them back to school and she was detained. Later the vicar arrived, and he also was detained.

"I didn't know I was being detained," said the vicar, who came to the village only at the end of June. "I didn't even know at the time that there was a raid."

"I went in to buy an ounce of tobacco. I was amazed to find four police officers in possession."

"I was detained for a few moments. The children were lined up in military fashion and I marched them back to school, to their great relief."

A charge of using the premises for the purpose of betting against Miss Louisa Madley, the postmistress, was dismissed and the magistrates, by a majority, also dismissed charges of assisting brought against Meredith Williams and his wife, the uncle and aunt of Miss Madley.

£30,000 JEWELS SEIZED ON THE NORMANDIE

New York Customs officials announced last night that they had seized diamonds valued at £30,000 on board the French liner *Normandie*, states British United Press.

They arrested two men and a woman believed to be members of a great international smuggling ring.

The names of those arrested are Mrs. Josephine Weinberg, a pretty brunette, aged twenty-eight, her husband, Isaac, and a New York diamond dealer, Israel Mendelkern.

FOOTPRINTS WEIGHING A TON STOLEN BY THIEVES!

Someone has stolen a ton stone slab bearing footprints of prehistoric monsters from the famous Dinosaur rocks at Holyoke, Massachusetts.

The slab, carries the "Daily Mirror" New York correspondent, was cut from its bed by an electric drill. Detectives are "on the trail."

CROWD FIGHTS TO HEAR VICE TRIAL

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK, Tuesday. FASHIONABLE crowds shattered the glass doors of the court-room when they battled for entrance to New York's sensational vice trial, which continued to-day.

Patrolman Francis Hunt described how he ran through Dr. Swift's massage institute during a raid and passed Dr. Swift on the stairs running about crying, "The police are coming," and telling customers and masseurs to put on their clothes.



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"IMPRISONED" CHILD CHARGE : BARONET IS CLEARED

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

New York, Tuesday.

ACCUSATIONS that Sir William Wiseman, chief of the British Secret Service in the United States during the war, had "imprisoned" his eight-year-old daughter Sheila were withdrawn by his former wife, Lady (Patrice Virginia) Wiseman, here to-night.

After a long secret meeting in the office of a Supreme Court Judge, it was announced that Sir William (now a New York banker) would have the custody of Sheila.

Sir William's first wife now lives quietly in a flat at Cheniston-gardens, Kensington, W.8.

